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B. The issue fee and publication fee (if applicable) of \$_____

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PTO/SB/64 (08-08)
Approved for use through 08/31/2008. OMB 0651-0031
ent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

(identify type of reply):

770.00 OP

08/28/2008 LTRUDNG 00000026 10697444

Docket Number (Optional) PETITION FOR REVIVAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR PATENT ABANDONED UNINTENTIONALLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.137(b) First named inventor: Joseph J. Spranza Art Unit: 3763 Application No.: 10/697-444 Examiner: Christopher Koharski Filed: 10/29/03 Title: Safe Trochar with Guide for Placement of Surgical Drains Attention: Office of Petitions Mail Stop Petition Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 FAX (571) 273-8300 NOTE: If information or assistance is needed in completing this form, please contact Petitions Information at (571) 272-3282. The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to file a timely and proper reply to a notice or action by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The date of abandonment is the day after the expiration date of the period set for reply in the office notice or action plus an extensions of time actually obtained. APPLICANT HEREBY PETITIONS FOR REVIVAL OF THIS APPLICATION NOTE: A grantable petition requires the following items: (1) Petition fee; (2) Reply and/or issue fee; (3) Terminal disclaimer with disclaimer fee - required for all utility and plant applications filed before June 8, 1995; and for all design applications; and (4) Statement that the entire delay was unintentional. 1.Petition fee Small entity-fee \$ 1700 (37 CFR 1.17(m)). Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Other than small entity – fee \$ _____ (37 CFR 1.17(m)) 2. Reply and/or fee A. The reply and/or fee to the above-noted Office action in

[Page 1 of 2]
This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.137(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED

01 FC:2453

FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

PTO/SB/64 (08-08)

Approved for use through 08/31/2008. OMB 0851-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Farminal disclaimer with disclaimer for

3. Terminal disclaimer with disclaimer fee
Since this utility/plant application was filed on or after June 8, 1995, no terminal disclaimer is required.
A terminal disclaimer (and disclaimer fee (37 CFR 1.20(d)) of \$ for a small entity or \$ for other than a small entity) disclaiming the required period of time is enclosed herewith (see
PTO/SB/63). 4. STATEMENT: The entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the required reply until the filing of a grantable petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional. [NOTE: The United States Patent and Trademark Office may require additional information if there is a question as to whether either the abandonment or the delay in filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional (MPEP 711.03(c), subsections (III)(C) and (D)).]
WARNING:
Petitioner/applicant is cautioned to avoid submitting personal information in documents filed in a patent application that may contribute to identity theft. Personal information such as social security numbers, bank account numbers, or credit car numbers (other than a check or credit card authorization form PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes) is never required by the USPTO to support a petition or an application. If this type of personal information is included in documents submitted to the USPTO, petitioners/applicants should consider redacting such personal information from the documents before submitting them to the USPTO. Petitioner/applicant is advised that the record of a patent application is available to the public after publication of the application (unless a non-publication request in compliance with 37 CFR 1.213(a) is made in the application) or issuance of a patent. Furthermore, the record from an abandoned application may also be available to the public if the application referenced in a published application or an issued patent (see 37 CFR 1.14). Checks and credit card authorization forms PTO 2038 submitted for payment purposes are not retained in the application file and therefore are not publicly available.
8/26/08
Signature Date
Quantum Community
UUSAN OPRANZA
Typed or printed name Registration Number, if applicable
12493 old Rough & KERDY HWY 916/300-1320 Address Telephone Number
GRASS VALLEY CA 95945 Address
Enclosures: Fee Payment
Reply
Terminal Disclaimer Form
Additional sheets containing statements establishing unintentional delay
Other:
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR 1.8(a)]
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being: Deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
Transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at (571) 273-8300. AUGUST 26, 2008
Date Signature Signature
Typed or printed name of person signing certificate



Privacy Act Statement

The **Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579)** requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

- The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the
 Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C 552a). Records from
 this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether
 disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
- A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of
 presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to
 opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
- 3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
- 4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
- 5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
- 6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
- 7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
- 8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
- A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.



Commissioner of Patents United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 20213

Dear Sir:

We acknowledge that the Continuation-in-Part application for "Safety Guide for Surgical Placement of Sharp Instruments" Serial No. 10/697,444 has been abandoned.

It is our intention to revive this application; however, the last office action is directed to claims 1-8 which were previously cancelled by our letter dated April 24, 2006. That letter included an attachment with new claims 9-26 substituted for those cancelled claims. That letter and its attachment are enclosed.

It appears that the Patent office does not have this letter of April 24, 2006 and its attachment. Enclosed is a copy of a returned postcard dated on or about 4/24/06 showing that the above mentioned letter was sent to and received by the Patent Office.

In revival of an abandoned application any outstanding Office Action must be responded to, but the wrong claims have been rejected by the Patent Office, therefore, either a new Office Action is required for claims 9-26 or we need to revive without responding to the Office Action.

We are requesting any action not be made final, as we will need to respond to any new office action.

A letter of request for Standing, as wife of my deceased husband Joseph John Spranza III, is enclosed herewith.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Spranza,

Widow of Joseph John Spranza III 12493 Old Rough and Ready Hwy

Grass Valley, CA 95945 Phone: 916/300-1320



In The United States Patent and Trademark Office

Mailed on April 24, 2006

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, District of Columbia 20231

Sir:

Please file the following enclosed patent application papers:

Applicant #1 Name. Joseph J. Spranza

Applicant #2 Name 'Robert S. Namba

Title: Safe Trochar with Guide for Placement of Surgical Drains

This is a Continuation in Part application for

"Safety Guide for Surgical Placement of Sharp Instruments",

Originally filed October 26, 2000

Serial Number 09/697-463, issued as Patent Number 6,613,039

Divisional Application filed July 03, 2003, Serial Number 10/613'387

Please cancel all Claims (numbers 1 through 8) and substitute the enclosed new Claims (numbers 9 through 26).

These new Claims have been mailed before the First Office Action.

Yours respectfully,

Joseph J. Spranza

Robert S. Namba

12493 Old Rough and Ready Hwy.

321 Milford Dr.

Grass Valley, CA 95945

Corona del Mar, CA 92625

Mail Label

Date of Deposit April 24, 2006

Signed

U.S. Postal Service™ CERTIFIED MAILT RECEIPT 1,203 (Domestic Mail Only; No Insurance Coverage Provided) 5238 \$0.63 \$2.40 Postage 7005 2570 0000 Certified Fee \$1.85 Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required) 656 Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required) \$0.00 04/24/2006 \$4.88 Total Postage & Fees \$ Street, Apt. No.; or PO Box No. City, State, ZIP+4

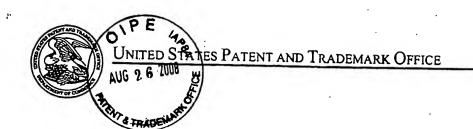
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Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.	A Signature Agent
 Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits. 	B. Received by (Printed Name) C. Date of Delivery D. is delivery address different from item 1?
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AUG 2. 6 2008 W	Application No.	Applicant(s)
200 ml / E/	10/697,444	SPRANZA ET AL.
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit
- The MAILING DATE of this	LoAn H. Thanh	3763
- The MAILING DATE of this communication app Period for Reply	ears on the cover sheet with the	correspondence address
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DA - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period with the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	6(a). In no event, however, may a reply be tin	N. nely filed
Status		
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 Oc	toher 2003	
Za) I his action is FINAL. 2b) ☑ This a	action is non-final	
Since this application is in condition for allowand	CP except for formal matters	secution as to the marks is
closed in accordance with the practice under Ex	parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 45	3 O.G. 213
Disposition of Claims		
4) Claim(s) is/are pending in the application.		
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawr	from consideration	
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.	i nom consideration.	
6) Claim(s) is/are rejected.		
7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.		
8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or e	election requirement	
Application Papers	requirement.	
9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.		
10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accept	ed or h) objects data to the	
Applicant may not request that any objection to the dra	wing(s) he held in the	raminer.
The correction	io rocking different and a contract of the con	
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Exam Priority and a 25 to 2 and a 25	piner Note the attack of the	cted to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119	micr. Note the attached Office A	ction or form PTO-152.
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign pri	ority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(c	d) or (f)
The service of thorse of		., .,
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2. Dertined copies of the priority documents ha	Ive been received in Anniin a	No.
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		olage
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the	ne certified copies not received.	
Attachment(s)	•	•
Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) Interview Summary (PT	0-413)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date.	
Paper No(s)/Mail Date	 5) Notice of Informal Paten 6) Other: 	t Application
Palent and Tredemark Office OL-326 (Rev. 08-06) Office Action 5		



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alcaandria, Virginia 22313-1450

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	60.10
10/697,444	10/20/2001		ATTORNET BOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/697,444 10/29/2003 Joseph		Joseph J. Spranza	·	7974
	7590 07/09/2007			
Joseph J. Spran	za	•	EXAM	INER
Grass Valley, C	gh and Ready Hwy. CA 95945	•	THANH, I	LOAN H
• .			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3763	
•				
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			07/09/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Application/Control Number: 10/697,444

Art Unit: 3763

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: It is the Examiner's position that Applicant has evoked sixth paragraph, means-plus-function language to define Applicant's invention. Therefore the Examiner requires the Applicant to amend the specification pursuant to 37 CFR 1.75(d) and MPEP 608.01(o) to explicitly state, with reference to the terms and phrases of the claim element, what structure, materials, and acts perform the function recited in the claim element. Please note that the MPEP clearly states, "Even if the disclosure implicitly sets forth the structure, materials, or acts corresponding to the means-(or step-) plus-function claim element in compliance with 35 U.S.C. 112, first and second paragraphs, the PTO may still require the applicant to amend the specification pursuant to 37 CFR 1.75(d) and MPEP 608.01(o)...". (Also see MPEP 2181 (Rev. 1, Feb.2000)) Wolfensperger, 302 F.2d at 955, 133 USPQ at 542.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-6,8 are objected to because of the following informalities: It is the Examiner's position that Applicant has evoked sixth paragraph, means-plus-function language to define Applicant's invention. Therefore the Examiner has objected to the claims for the reasons set forth above in the objection to the specification.

Appropriate correction is required.

Application/Control Number: 10/697,444

Art Unit: 3763

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-6, 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 is vague and indefinite because it is unclear whether applicant is intending to positively claim the indexing means since it is a part of the functional limitation. For purposes of art rejection, the indexing means is not considered positively claimed.

Claim 6 is vague and indefinite because it is unclear what applicant is intending to claim. There are no further limitations and the claim appears to be incomplete. (For example, "wherein said" in line 1 of the claim ends abruptly)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Villegas (US 2581564).

Application/Control Number: 10/697,444

Art Unit: 3763

Villegas discloses a surgical trochar/device having an elongated rod having a sharp end at the distal end thereof and a second with means to connect to a tube and the second having a recess (shown in figures 1-5). The rod is considered bent as shown in figures 4-5.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fukuda (US 4,345,604).

With respect to claims 1-6,8, Fukuda discloses an elongate rod 13 having a sharp end and second end with a recess and means to connect a tube 11. the rod is bent and a sheath 15 provides a covering for the sharp point. The sheath locking means is considered the tapered lumen at 16 which holds the rod. See figures 1-5, 9-13. With respect to the method claim 8, the sheath provides protection to the surgery personnel.

With respect to claim 7, the guide is considered shown figure 8. The device has a receiver at one end and a second end attached to the arm 27 or the holder 18 is attached to the second end. As shown in figure 1.

The Examiner has interpreted the claim limitation in the broadest interpretation.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LoAn H. Thanh whose telephone number is (571) 272-4966. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (first Friday off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nicholas Lucchesi can be reached on (571) 272-4977. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/LoAn H. Thanh/

LoAn H. Thanh Primary Examiner Art Unit 3763



July 31, 2008

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA22313-1450

Dear Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks:

I am requesting Standing. My husbands name was Joseph J. Spranza III.

Joe had several patent and patent applications. The specific issue I am presently working on is application # 10/697,444. I believe this is a Continuation in Part to patent # 9.697.463. The Continuation in Part is referred to as Safe Trochar with Guide for Placement of Surgical Drains.

These application needs to be revived and I understand that I need standing in order to do this.

I have enclosed the Court Order signed and given to me by the federal Judge and in this instance referred to as Saf-Trochar, also, a copy of Joe's Death Certificate.

If you need any additional information please advise me as soon as possible, as I am working on the revival paperwork as we write.

Thank you,

Susan Spranza

12493 Old Rough and Ready Hwy Grass Valley, California 95945

Phone 916/300-1320 Or Phone 530/273-1987

Enclosed 3pages



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2004-25484
FILED
April 01, 2008
CLER, U.S. BANKRUPTCI COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Michael F. Burkart, Chapter 7 Trustee 5150 Fair Oaks Blvd., #101-185 Carmichael, CA 95608

Tel: (916) 485-0412 E-mail: <u>burkart@cwo.com</u>

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SACRAMENTO DIVISION

| Case No. 04-25484-A-7 |
| DCN: MFB-6 |
| JOSEPH J. SPRANZA, | DATE: March 31, 2008 |
| TIME: 9:00 A.M. |
| DEPT: A |
| COURTROOM: 28 (7th Floor)

ORDER ON TRUSTEE'S MOTION TO APPROVE A DISTRIBUTION IN KIND TO THE SOLE REMAINING CREDITOR

The Motion of Michael F. Burkart, being the duly appointed Chapter 7 Trustee (the "Trustee") in the above-captioned case of Joseph J. Spranza (the "Debtor"), requesting an order authorizing the distribution in kind concerning the personal property held under the Bankruptcy Estate, was heard pursuant to this Court's regular Law and Motion calendar on March 31, 2008. The Trustee appeared on his own behalf at the hearing. Other appearances were noted on the record.

There was no opposition filed nor argued at the hearing with regard to the Trustee's Motion requesting an authorization of the distribution in kind of the remaining Personal Property.

The Court, having duly considered the Trustee's Motion and the Court's file herein, and good cause appearing therefor, ordered as follows:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

A. The Trustee's Motion for an order authorizing the distribution in kind concerning the remaining Personal Property held under the Bankruptcy Estate is granted.

RECEIVED
April 01, 2008
CLERK, U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT
RASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
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Best Available Copy

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- The Trustee is authorized to distribute the remaining Personal Property of the Estate to B. Susan Spranza as provided under Proof of Claim No. 8, filed on January 24, 2008.
- Immediately upon entry of this order, the following described Personal Property of the Estate shall be distributed in kind to Susan Spranza:
 - Stock ownership in Special Devices, Inc.(SDI)
 - Special Devices owes past due wages
 - Special Devices owes personal loans
 - Misc. Patents:
 - a) Personal patent (promised to be assigned to SDI) Flexi
 - Shared patent (promised to be assigned to SDI) AFRS, TOB
 - Co-owned (licensed to SDI) Safe Trochar
 - 3rd party ownership (licensed to SDI) Bone Biopsy d)
 - Patent application (to be assigned to SDI) Trephine
 - 1980 Rolls Royce Camargue
 - Moto Guzzi motorcycle
 - 1957 Alfa Romeo Spider
 - 1980 Maserati Quattro Porte
 - 1991 Chrysler TC
 - Misc. equipment used exclusively by SDI
- The Trustee is authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to complete the D. distribution of the remaining Personal Property of the Estate.

Dated: 01 April, 2008

By the Court

Michael S. McManus, Chief Judge United States Bankruptcy Court

CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

COUNTY OF PLACER

Auburn, California 95603

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COUNTY OF PLACER

DATE ISSUED

07/24/2007

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